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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 794

By Pleasant

A RESOLUTION to honor the eightieth birthday of Murrell  
Elizabeth Lane Pleasant.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the State of Tennessee should honor those extraordinary citizens whose lives have held up through time and have been shining examples of what a daughter, wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend should be; and

WHEREAS, one such notable citizen is Murrell Elizabeth Lane Pleasant who will be celebrating her eightieth birthday on June 13, 2002; and

WHEREAS, the eighth of thirteen children, Murrell Pleasant was born to Thomas Bluford Lane and Nell Lavenia Sullivan Lane in Memphis, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished scholar, she completed her early education at Bethel Grove Elementary and Lawler Junior High and her later studies at Tennessee Preparatory Academy; and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 1937, Murrell Elizabeth Lane Pleasant met her lifelong partner and sweetheart, the late William Clyde Pleasant, Sr. of Brunswick, Tennessee; Clyde

was the son of Morris Herman Pleasant and Mattie Frances Humphreys Pleasant, who resided on a farm on Memphis-Arlington Road in the Brunswick and Ellendale community; and

WHEREAS, after falling madly in love, Murrell and Clyde decided a year and a-half was a proper courtship and were joined in holy matrimony on December 22, 1939 in Marion, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, in 1939, the happy couple moved to their first farm, which was located on Memphis-Arlington Road; in 1942, they moved to a larger farm on Germantown Road, where they raised their five children and where Murrell still resides; Clyde Pleasant, sadly, passed away on October 4, 1990; and

WHEREAS, within the bonds of a loving marriage, Murrell and Clyde Pleasant brought five wonderful and attentive children into this world; they were devoted parents to their daughters, Dianne, Brenda, and Renee, and their sons, Clyde, Jr. (Bubba) and Thomas Herman (Tommy); and

WHEREAS, the Pleasants stressed the importance of education to their children, encouraging them to study and work hard in their classes in the Shelby County School System; the four oldest attended Brunswick Elementary and Bolton High School, and the youngest, Renee, attended Evangelical Christian School; and

WHEREAS, in addition to teaching their children to value education, they also instilled in their children the importance of community involvement and service; all of their children graduated from high school and achieved varying degrees of higher education, which has enabled them to give back to their community as their parents had done before them; and

WHEREAS, Murrell and Clyde Pleasant have been blessed with nine grandchildren, William Clyde Pleasant III, John Thomas Pleasant, Fredrick Andrew Patrick, Jr., Charles Henry Van Tilburg III, Kenneth Edward Pleasant, Katherine Elizabeth Pleasant Petrowski, Robert Eugene Patrick, Jocelyn Nicole Pleasant, and William Richard Baum and five great-grandchildren, Amber Rachelle Van Tilburg, Charles Henry Van Tilburg IV, Cameron Lane

Pleasant, Fredrick Andrew Patrick III, Ethan Caleb Petrowski; the Pleasant family is eagerly awaiting the birth of the sixth great-grandchild in November of 2002 to Murrell and Clyde's grandson, Kenneth Edward Pleasant; and

WHEREAS, Murrell Elizabeth Lane Pleasant raised her children in a strong Christian home and for the majority of her eighty years has been an active member of the Brunswick Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, for over sixty years, this remarkable woman has dedicated her time and energies serving her family as well as the Brunswick and Ellendale communities; she has been a valuable member of the Parent Teacher Associations of Brunswick, Bolton, Eastdale, Rosemark, and Evangelical Christian Schools and the Shelby County Republican Club, the Shelby County Republican Women, the Northeast Shelby-Bartlett Republican Club, and the Bartlett Lodge Eastern Star; and

WHEREAS, Murrell Pleasant has nobly fulfilled the roles of daughter, housewife, mother, and grandmother and has distinguished herself as a woman of great character, integrity, and faith; and

WHEREAS, it is the pleasure of this General Assembly at the eighth decade of Murrell Elizabeth Lane Pleasant's life to honor her benevolent and steadfast service to her family, community, and this great State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Murrell Elizabeth Lane Pleasant on the celebration of her eightieth birthday, applaud her life of gracious service and goodwill, and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

